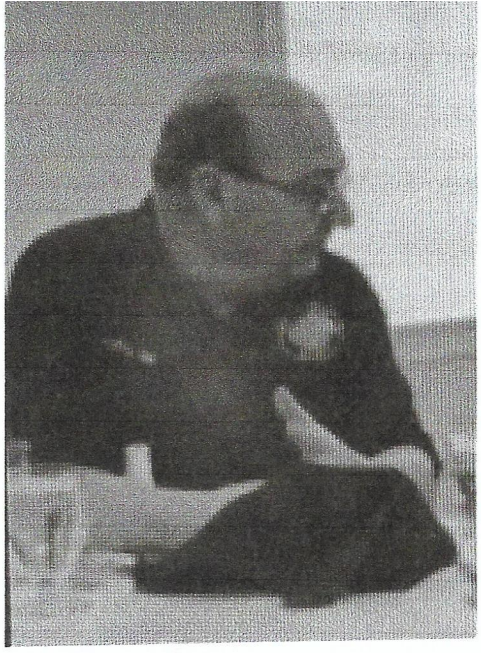

Holiday set turned into lifelong hobby

Richard Briggs earns MMR #261

Richard Briggs, MMR #261, first became interested in model railroading when he was 6 or 7 years old. For Christmas his parents gave him an American Flyer train set which was mounted to the all too familiar 4x8 plywood sheet. From then on the interest remained, but his involvement became sporadic, interrupted by school, work, military service, children, and lack of space.

In 1991 a basement bedroom became available, model railroading became a priority, and the opportunity to participate in the Achievement Program became a reality. Dick developed a plan to work on each of the Achievement Program Certificates in conjunction with the construction of his new railroad.

In his own words: "Earning the necessary certificates for Master Model Railroader has been a lot of fun and very challenging, as it should be. I have met some extremely talented modelers along the way who were always willing to share their experience and expertise. Many great modelers influenced me in my endeavors thus far, especially my dad who bought that first train set and taught me craftsmanship. I highly recommend that every member take a good look at the Achievement Program and give it a try. They might just enjoy it!!"

Dick has earned certificates as a Master Builder - Motive Power, Master Builder - Structures, Master Builder - Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer - Civil, Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical, Chief Dispatcher, Association Volunteer and Model Railroad Author.